

James B. Beard



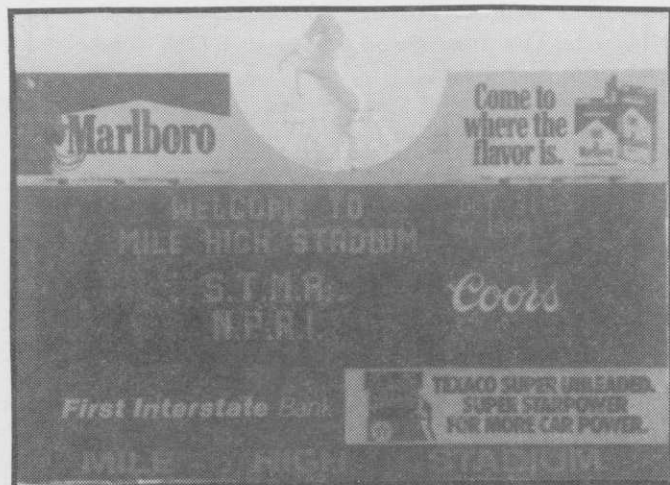
Sports Turf News

JANUARY 1985

VOLUME 1 NUMBER 1

DENVER HAPPENINGS

The STMA annual meeting which was held at the Regency Hotel in Denver featured one of the best educational programs ever according to those in attendance. Credit for this Blue Ribbon program must go to our Vice President Mike Schiller who served as program chairman. We are in the process of compiling a proceedings featuring all the talks that were presented. Once all the speeches are received from the speakers, they will be bound and made available in booklet form to STMA members.



Welcoming participants to the 1984 STMA annual meeting was the billboard sign outside Mile High Stadium.

Elected to serve as President for the 1985 year was David Frey, Cleveland Stadium. Serving with him on the Executive Committee are Mike Schiller, Northbrook, Illinois Parks, vice president; Melissa Merritt, Penn Valley Community College, secretary; Steve Wightman, Denver Mile High Stadium, treasurer. Serving on the Board of Directors are Don Marshall, Anaheim Stadium; George Toma, Kansas City Royals & Chiefs; and Roy Zehren, National Athletic Turf, Inc., Mequon, Wis. Also on the board are three past presidents of STMA: Dr. W. H. Daniel,

Purdue University, Harry Gill, Milwaukee County Stadium; and Dick Ericson, Metro Stadium, Minnesota. Selected to serve as Executive Secretary is Dr. Kent W. Kurtz, Professor of Turfgrass, Cal Poly Pomona University, California.



Taking a tour of Mile High Stadium in Denver were Harry Gill (left), Bill Daniel, Kent Kurtz and Mike Schiller.

In addition to the serious times, STMA conferees enjoyed some humorous moments. During the tour of Mile High Stadium all eyes were drawn to the uppermost section of the seats where a robust figure dressed in a Chicago Cubs hat and jacket was seated. It was no other than Mike "Bob Uecker" Schiller viewing the action from his "front row" seat.

What was Don Marshall trying to prove by riding the elevator up and down to the 14th floor? How many times did you make the trip, Don? Is this how Anaheim Stadium employees kill time during a working day?

Our new STMA Secretary Melissa Merritt was last seen chasing around making copies and running a multitude of errands thus earning the title "Gofer".

And how about Dr. "Naithsmith" basketball Kurtz. In trying to illustrate how soils drain properly, he discussed the proper and improper structure of soils. He said "If one filled a gym half full of basketballs, then dumped marbles on top, the marbles would sink to the bottom. This would be compared to silt or clay (marbles) plugging up the large gravel aggregates. Proper soil drainage systems must be well thought out before installation."



Just for fun Mike Schiller climbed high up in Mile High Stadium to claim his "front row" seat.

The Denver STMA meetings were delightful, educational, and established a warm, caring and closeness among all in attendance. We are on our way to a new beginning.

**STMA EDUCATIONAL DISPLAY
AT GCSA TRADE SHOW**

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America is providing STMA a complementary booth at their 56th International Golf Course

Conference and Show (February 10-12) in the Washington D.C. Convention Center. We appreciate this opportunity to promote STMA.

Executive Secretary Kent Kurtz will be attending the conference but needs assistance manning the booth and needs pictures or posters to dress up the display. If you can help or send material for the booth please contact Kent at 714-598-4167 or evenings 714-984-4677.

Hopefully Tony Burnett can provide STMA members attending the conference a tour of J.F. Kennedy Stadium in Washington, D.C.

**STMA MEMBERS PREPARE
BOWL AND PLAYOFF GAMES**

Hats off to our members who have made the Association proud with their excellent field preparations for the big games. And all of these games were played on natural grass. Congratulations gentlemen, STMA has finally arrived.

- Barney Barron
NFL Playoff - San Francisco
- Don Marshall
Freedom Bowl, NFL Playoff - Anaheim
- Steve Wightman
NFL Playoff - Denver
- Tony Burnett
NFL Playoff - Washington D.C.
- George Toma
Super Bowl - Palo Alto
- Dale Sandin
NFL Playoff - Miami
- David Jacobs, Kent Kurtz
Rose Bowl - Pasadena

**GEORGE TOMA AND DONALD MARSHALL TO SPEAK
AT CAL POLY'S 2ND ANNUAL SPORTSTURF
INSTITUTE MARCH 19, 1985**

The 2nd annual Sportsturf Institute at Cal Poly Pomona Tuesday, March 19, 1985 includes a seminar series featuring two of the nation's premier sportsturf managers, George Toma (Kansas City Royals baseball club, Kansas City Chiefs Football team and the NFL Superbowl's special advisor) and Donald Marshall from Anaheim Stadium (Los Angeles Rams, California Angels, and Freedom Bowl).

This year's conference includes a

A LOT IS ON THE LINE

With Safe Athletic Fields

**Player Injuries * Team Records * Alumni/Fan Support
The Spirit of Sports * Your Job**

Why face all this responsibility alone? There is an association of fellow sports field managers waiting to share their experiences with you. Members of the Sports Turf Managers Association include grounds superintendents of high school and college campuses, park superintendents, and field managers for professional football, baseball, and soccer teams. Each member has something to lend to the advancement of athletic field management.

STMA members manage utility turf, fine turf, cool-season turf, warm-season turf, clay fields, sand fields, and even artificial fields. They are anxious to share what they have discovered that works.

The bottom line is budgets are matters of

fact, not luck or secrets. And, today, persons responsible for millions of dollars of recreational property need facts.

STMA members exchange their ideas through a bimonthly newsletter, regional seminars, and an annual conference and show. The membership directory puts the names and phone numbers of fellow members and suppliers at your fingertips for help in emergencies, or just for bouncing ideas off of each other.

Be your own expert with the help of fellow sports field managers. Fill out the membership coupon below and mail it today. You don't have to face the challenges of sports field management by yourself anymore.



Please send check for appropriate amount to Sports Turf Managers Association, c/o Don Marshall, Anaheim Stadium, 2000 S. State College Blvd., Anaheim, CA 92806. For more information contact Kent Kurtz, executive secretary, STMA, (714) 598-4167.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

- 1** PROFESSIONAL SPORTS TURF FACILITY MANAGERS (\$50)
- 2** EDUCATORS/PARKS/SCHOOLS (\$30)
- 3** STUDENTS (\$10)
- 4** COMMERCIAL/AFFILIATES (\$100)

NAME _____

TITLE _____

FACILITY _____

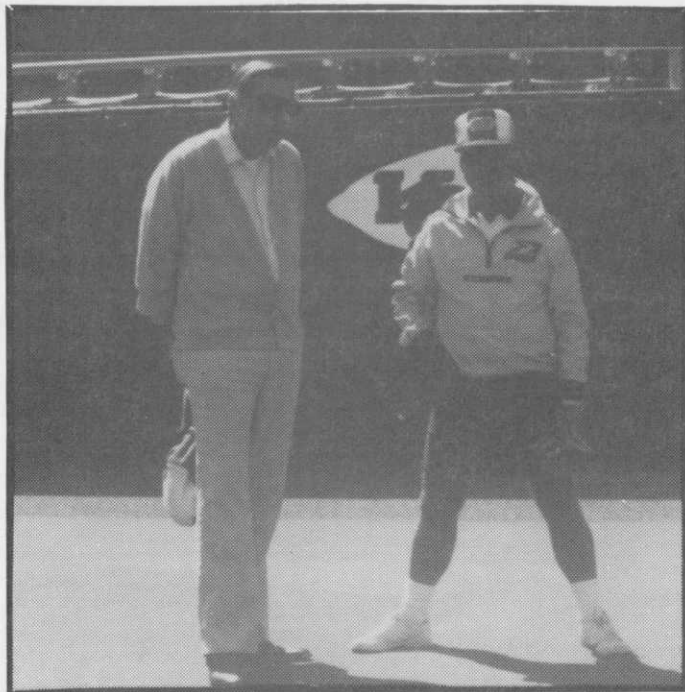
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morning seminar series from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. with two concurrent sessions to choose from: Getting Back to the Basics, Assisting Coaches and Athletic Directors Manage Fields and The Sportsturf Manager in the 1980's. All educational sessions will be held at the University Union.



Dr. Kent Kurtz, STMA Executive Secretary and George Toma, Kansas City Royals and Chiefs discuss the upcoming Sports Turf Institute at Cal Poly Pomona, California.

A steak barbeque lunch at the famous W.K. Kellogg Rose Garden and an opportunity to visit the acclaimed new O.A. Batcheller Conservatory provide a time to relax and reflect on the day's activities.

The Sportsturf Industries leading equipment, materials and supply companies will be featured in a trade show from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Inside exhibits will be in the men's gymnasium and the outside exhibits on the large athletic field complex adjacent to the gym.

Come to learn, share and experience a day of fellowship and knowledge. This year's Institute is co-sponsored by the Sports Turf Managers' Association and the Cal Poly Ornamental Horticulture Club.

Pre-registration \$18 includes lunch. Registration at the door is \$20.

Checks should be made payable to: Cal Poly Foundation. Tear off pre-registration form is below, include a check for \$18. and mail to: Dr. Kent W. Kurtz, Sportsturf Institute Coordinator, Horticulture Department, Cal Poly, 3801 W. Temple Ave., Pomona, Calif., 91768.

MESSAGE FROM STMA PRESIDENT

As President of STMA, I wish to welcome new members and extend best wishes to all members for a successful season in 1985.

1985 promises to be the year of change for STMA. A goal for the organization has been defined, a logo has been created, real by-laws are now in effect, and we now have our own office.

For years grass has been accepted as a green cover where it is not shaded out or covered up. Our goal is to promote the virtue of grass for sport surfaces and encourage the development of grass growing techniques.

The '85 season will provide you, the membership, with new benefits from the organization and hopefully a good level of communication with others in the same "field of interest".

David D. Frey
President, Sports Turf Managers Assoc.

UPDATE FROM YOUR EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

I am pleased to be able to serve the STMA membership as the new Executive Secretary. Your Board of Directors and newly elected officers have asked me to take the organization to the forefront of our industry and I intend to do this by spending the next year promoting a positive, professional image for the association. Since the meetings in Denver we have already opened our own bank account, begun publishing a modest newsletter, started work on a membership directory, and plan to initiate a membership drive by word of mouth, through trade publications (Weeds, Trees, & Turf, February 1985)

and at regional and national conferences. We plan to have a membership display and exhibit at the 56th International Golf Course Conference and Show in Washington, D.C. February 5 to 13, 1985. Any member planning to attend these meetings and who is willing to spend some time promoting STMA at the exhibit, please let me know.

Another area of prime importance is STMA's commitment to promote natural grass playing fields and to disseminate, share and assist our fellow sportsturf managers with new ideas, information and knowledge. To accomplish these ends we intend to begin sponsoring regional seminars in different sections of the country. The first will be the Sportsturf Institute and Trade Show to be held March 19, 1985, at Cal Poly University, Pomona, California. The second seminar is being planned by Vice President Mike Schiller and past President Harry "Pops" Gill. The meeting will be held either in Milwaukee or Chicago sometime in July. I plan to be available to assist these two "movers and shakers" with this undertaking. Harry Gill guarantees a lunch of suds and bratwurst if Milwaukee is selected for the seminar.

Beginning in April and extending through December, I have been granted a sabbatical leave from the University to co-author a book, Sportsturf Construction, Management and Use, with STMA Director, Dr. W.H. "Bill" Daniel, from Purdue University. To accomplish this goal will require extensive travel on my part to visit sports facilities and stadiums throughout the U.S. to gather information, facts and ideas from sportsturf managers. I feel the sabbatical will provide an excellent opportunity, as your Executive Secretary, to promote STMA and to encourage sportsturf managers everywhere to join our progressive association. However, I will need the assistance of each of you to write this book.

The year 1985 indeed looks very promising and bright, and if each

member encourages a friend to join our ranks we can easily double the membership of STMA. We look to our future with the hope of someday being able to command a strategic position in the industry whereby STMA will be able to provide funds and coordinate research activities at major universities for the betterment of the sportsturf manager and his/her facilities. Soon we should have a membership card and provide greater benefits and services to our members.

From your Executive Secretary, I do hope your personal New Year holds as much excitement and promise as 1985 does for STMA.

NEWS FLASH FROM DENVER STMA MEETINGS



Participating in one of the educational sessions at the recent annual meeting of STMA were Harry Gill (left), Steve Wightman, Don Marshall and Barney Barron.

STMA elected to become an independent national association and to forge ahead by upgrading our profession and providing our members with considerably improved benefits. In a nutshell some major steps taken by STMA are:

- appointed Dr. Kent Kurtz, Professor of Turfgrass Science at Cal Poly University, Pomona, Calif., as the new Executive Secretary.
- established a new mailing address: Sports Turf Managers' Association, c/o Don Marshall, Anaheim Stadium, 2000 S. State College Blvd., Anaheim, CA 92806.
- elected to investigate joining other Green Industry national associations for an annual national conference and trade show.
- established a new fee structure and restructured all membership classifications.

-appointed a committee to revise the by-laws to make them more applicable to the membership.

EDITORIAL

Weeds, Trees & Turf, December 1985

A frustration exists in the Green Industry. It is caused by the excessive attention poured over lawn care operators and golf course superintendents by suppliers and the news media while other Green Industry professions go unrecognized.

Refusing to accept a lesser position in the industry, smaller industry associations are regrouping to restore their rightful share of recognition amongst all Green Industries.

The list of examples is long. The American Sod Producers Association hired a full-time, experienced executive director, Doug Fender, and immediately started an image-building campaign. The Professional Grounds Management Society has made Allan Shulder's part-time position a full-time one and the PGMA board's primary goal is more attention for their programs and show. The Sports Turf Managers' Association has just separated from its former management firm and its board selected image-building and show as key objectives. The Associated Landscape Contractors of America has stepped up its maintenance programs to show the landscape world there was landscape maintenance before the term lawn care was ever coined.

There is a solution for the image problem of smaller associations, one where the individual association can preserve their identity but still take advantage of a larger show, more attention from manufacturers, and perhaps bigger budget educational programs.

It is a joint conference. Instead of 200 people attending separate shows, 3,000 will attend a joint conference. Instead of 33 small booths, there will be 200 exhibitors with their big booths. Instead of speakers from a

limited area, there will be experts from across the country.

This can be done without small associations losing their identity in a big crowd. In fact, small associations can still have small meetings during the year if they want, but once a year join together and put their muscle together with other allied associations for a major event.

Such an event will become reality within the next 18 months. Mark my word.

Bruce Shank
Weeds Trees & Turf
Reprinted Editorial

WIGHTMAN WINS LAWN RANGER AWARD



Harry Gill (right) presented the Lawn Ranger Award for the Sports Turf Manager of the year to Steve Wightman.

The "Lawn Ranger" Award, founded in 1981 by Harry Gill, Director of Grounds of Milwaukee County Stadium, is designed to recognize individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the advancement of the sports turfgrass industry.

The 1984 winner was Steve Wightman. Wightman, Mile High Stadium, Denver, maintains the field in top condition for use by professional baseball teams, USFL football teams and as the home field for the NFL Broncos. In addition he is responsible for keeping the field in playable condition while still allowing the stadium to be used for special events such as the recent Michael Jackson Victory Tour.

The award, a traveling trophy, is quite unique in design. It consists of a figure representing the sports turf manager, riding the horse of politics, wielding the weapons of a waterhose and rake, and sitting atop the grill of a catcher's mask.

Nominations for the award are solicited from all STMA members. At the annual meeting, the winner is selected from the slate of candidates and presented the award.

The first award winner in 1982 was Harry Gill. The second was Dr. W.H. Daniel, professor and turfgrass specialist at Purdue University.

WELCOME NEW STMA MEMBERS

J.W. McGillis
President, Arnold Thomas Seed Co.
Louden, Wash.

Mark Hodnick
Supervisor of Grounds
Cal Poly University
Pomona, Calif.

David Jacobs
Rose Bowl Director
Pasadena, Calif.

Tony Guerrero
Facility Manager
Air Force Academy
Colorado Springs, Colo.

Kenneth Irons
Superintendent of Grounds
Los Angeles Raiders
Los Angeles, Calif.

Michael Kartchner
Superintendent of Grounds
Juripa Unified School District
Riverside, Calif.

James Flynn
Park Foreman
Wilton, Conn.

Don Morgan
Manager, Sierra Stadia
Anaheim, Calif.

Douglas Quinn
Superintendent of Parks
Halifax Nova Scotia, Canada

Larry Krieger
President, 7-K Color Corp.
Los Angeles, Calif.

A WORD ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER

Although the decision was made by STMA Officers and the Board of Directors to establish a newsletter, it is the opinion of your Executive Secretary to keep the cost minimal until our membership increases and/or we start to accept advertising.

To keep the costs down we have elected to set the copy by using a computer printer and a typewriter rather than having it typeset.

So, we may not be fancy right now, but we will get the news about STMA to you, our reader.



Dr. Kent W. Kurtz
Executive Secretary
Sports Turf Manager's Assoc.
1458 N. Euclid
Ontario, CA 91764

President	David Frey
Vice_President	Mike Schiller
Secretary	Melissa Merritt
Treasurer	Steve Wightman
Director	Don Marshall
Director	George Toma
Director	Roy Zehren
Director	Dr. W. H. Daniel
Director	Harry Gill
Director	Dick Ericson
Ex. Secretary	Dr. Kent Kurtz